

Pappas Telecasting  
Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in  
airtime to Republican candidates in  
certain areas is yet another example of  
a powerful media group abusing its  
privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a  
corporate headquarters decides to  
provide one side in local elections a  
louder voice than others. During  
election season, local audiences should  
be offered genuine debate -- not  
disingenuous offers to "purchase" an  
equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of  
charge and is obligated by law to serve  
the public interest. Pappas' actions are  
legally questionable and cast doubt on  
whether Pappas truly intends to serve  
the public interest. Their actions show  
why we need to strengthen media  
ownership rules, not weaken them.  
Further, they show why the license  
renewal process needs to involve more  
than just a returned postcard. Thank  
you.